gates. Bu this time major fire took lives of 9 labourers and injured 18 others.

Considerable quantity of flammable substances mainly rubber solution, rubber mixing compound ahesives in possession of the said unit caught fire resulting the loss of lives and serious injury due to fire burn. Subsequently, it was learnt from local police station that two more workers succumbed to their burn injury raising death toll to 11 (eleven).

(c) The State Government has replied in affirmative.

(d) and (e) For the industrial units which fall in the state sphere, the State Governments are the appropriate authorities vested with legal powers to intervene and settle the issues relating to labour laws.

As and when violation of labour laws come to the notice of this Ministry, the same are forwarded to the State Government concerned for taking necessary action in the matter. The State Government of West Bengal has informed that a joint inspection team comprising inspector of factories, ESIC representatives, local P.F. authorities have already been formed and such joint inspection team is visiting different factories to ensure effective implementation of labour laws.

Establishments punished for violating guidelines of EPFO

1743. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of establishments convicted for not adhering to the guidelines of EPFO since 2000; and

(b) the action taken by Government against those establishments, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The details of cases, resulting in conviction are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Besides launching of prosecution under section 14 of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and filing of complaints under section 406/409 of the Indian Penal Code, other actions as provided under the Act are taken against defaulting establishments for recovery of dues. This includes, attachment/sale of movable/immovable properties, arrest of defaulters, etc.

Statement

No. of cases resulting in Convictions (Unexempted)

	u/s 14 of the Act			
Year	EPF Scheme, 1952	EPS, 1995	EDLI Scheme, 1976	U/s 406/409 of IPC
2000-01	660	469	351	17
2001-02	763	241	232	9
2002-03	681	370	387	0
2003-04	912	715	769	0
2004-05	301	150	173	4
2005-06	859	173	177	1

Employment Policy for educated/skilled unemployed youths

1744. SHRI M. V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any employment policy for the educated/skilled unemployed youths of the country during the current year;

(b) whether any target to provide employment to these unemployed youths in the country has been fixed by the Government; and

(c) if so, the State-wise details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Government targeted creation of around five crore, on an average of one crore per year, employment opportunities — three crore through normal growth process and two crore through special employment generation programmes during the Tenth Five Year Plan period. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar (SJSRY) especially cater to the requirement of educated unemployed youth. State-wise details (summary) of progress under PMRY for the year 2006-07 for the month ending December, 2006 and cumulative physical and financial